

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9683

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, IN

SUBJ: JOURNALISTIC ACTIVITIES DURING PRESS CENSORSHIP STATE
OF EMERGENCY - INDIA - NO. 3

REF: NEW DELHI 8750, 8834

1. EXPULSIONS: WEDNESDAY ERIC PACE, VISITING CORRESPONDENT
FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES, WAS SUMMONED TO MEA (R.R. MOTIHAR, PRESS
OFFICER) TO DISCUSS INFRACTIONS OF THE CURRENT CENSORSHIP RE-
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GULATIONS. THIS MORNING HE CONFIDED TO THE COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR

THAT HE EXPECTED TO BE THROWN OUT OF THE COUNTRY. VIC VANZI, UPI BUREAU CHIEF MET WITH THE MEA PRESS SPOKESMAN (A.N.D. HAKSAR) LATE WEDNESDAY AND AFTER SAYING HE COULD NOT ABIDE BY THE CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS WAS TOLD HIS CASE WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO HIGHER AUTHORITY FOR ACTION. KATE WEBB (BRITISH SUBJECT) THE UPI MANILA BUREAU CHIEF, HERE TO ASSIST DURING THE EMERGENCY, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THURSDAY THAT VANZI SEEMED DESTINED FOR EXPULSION. IF SHE STAYED, OR THE BUREAU IN NEW DELHI REMAINED OPENED, DEPENDED ON A UPI DECISION WHETHER THEY WOULD OBSERVE THE GOI REGULATIONS OR NOT. SHE INDICATED THE HONG KONG REGIONAL CHIEF AND NEW YORK EXECUTIVES WERE CONSIDERING THE MATTER. AMONG NON-AMERICAN JOURNALISTS GEOFFREY HUGHES WAS CALLED TO THE MEA AND VANZI REPORTS THAT AFTER HIS MEETING THERE HE SAID THEY TOLD HIM, "YOU'RE A SPECIAL CASE -- AND WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOU."

2. SIMONS FAMILY: THE RESIDENCE OF EXPELLED WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT LEW SIMONS NOW HAS TELEPHONE SERVICE. IT HAS BEEN CUT OFF BY THE GOI JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE AND REINSTITUTED AFTER THE INTERCESSION OF THE EMBASSY AND FELLOW NEWSMAN MYRON BELKIND (AP BUREAU CHIEF ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION) WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS THURSDAY QUESTIONED MEA ON THE RETURN OF SIMONS' CONFISCATED NOTEBOOKS AND HE WAS ASSURED THEY WOULD BE RETURNED THOUGH THEY COULD STATE NO DEFINITE TIME AND METHOD. MRS. SIMONS PLANS TO LEAVE EARLY SATURDAY MORNING FOR BANGKOK.

OPERATION OF CENSORSHIP: FOR THE FIRST TIME THE EMBASSY HAS EVIDENCE OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS BEING HELD UP BY THE CENSORS. THIS IS THE CASE NOW WITH TIME, NEWSWEEK AND RECENT EDITIONS OF THE PARIS PUBLISHED INTERNATIONAL HERALD-TRIBUTE. GENERAL CONJECTURE IS THAT COPIES OF NEITHER MAGAZINES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED. THEY INFORMATION OFFICER AT THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION THURSDAY MORNING SAID THEY HAVE HEARD OF NO DELAYS IN DELIVERY OF BRITISH PUBLISHED NEWSPAPERS OR MAGAZINES. TIME MAGAZINE CONTINUES TO WORK ON A DOMESTIC EDITION COVER STORY AND YESTERDAY VISITING CORRESPONDENT BILL STEWART MET WITH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (V.C. SHUKLA, MINISTER) TO RUN OVER HIS OUTLINE AND FIND OUT WHAT THEY COULD WRITE AND TRANSMIT UNDER GOI REGULATIONS. THURSDAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORNING HE TOLD THE EMBASSY PRESS ATTACHE THAT WORKING ON SHUKLA'S GUIDELINES HE SUBMITTED COPY FOR CENSORSHIP LAST NIGHT AND ENDED UP WITH A SHORT PARAGRAPH WHICH AMOUNTED TO "INDIRA GANDHI IS A NICE LADY." HE IS TRYING TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE WAS GIVEN A LINE IN HIS ONE AND A HALF HOUR INTERVIEW WITH THE MINISTER OR IF IT WAS JUST SLOPPY STAFF WORK AND COORDINATION IN THE MINISTRY.

4. SHORT WAVE LISTENING: EMBASSY OFFICERS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE

INDICATIONS OF INCREASED SHORT WAVE LISTENING AND USIS HAS
EXPERIENCED A UPTURN IN TELEPHONE REQUESTS INQUIRING ABOUT FRE-
QUENCIES FOR RECEPTION OF VOA IN INDIA. IN CALCUTTA THE BRITISH
DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSION HAD A DEMONSTRATION ON WEDNESDAY CONDUCTED
BY THE CONGRESS PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION AGAINST BBC AND THEIR
COVERAGE OF THE CURRENT EMERGENCY. THE HIGH COMMISSION IN DELHI
SAYS THEY HAVE NOT YET LODGED A PROTEST AND THAT OFFICIALS IN
CALCUTTA HAD NOTIFIED THEM IN ADVANCE OF THE DEMONSTRATION, WHICH
IT TURNED OUT WAS ORGANIZED AND ORDERLY.

5. ARRIVALS-DEPARTURES: TONY CLIFTON (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL),
NEWSWEEK HONG KONG BUREAU HAS ARRIVED WHILE LOREN JENKINS OF
THE SAME MAGAZINE HAS DEPARTED.

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